sailent feature of moderinisation schemes of Durgapur Steel Plant, Rourkela Steel Plant and the proposed project for modernisation of Burnpur Works of IISCO. The modernisation of these plpnts is envisaged to result in improvement of coke rate and productivity of blast furnaces through the following measures :—

(i) Improved raw material preparation ;

(ii) Conveyorisation of charging system and sinter screening in the stock house ;

(iii) Better burden distribution at the furnace ;

(iv) Usage of higher blast temperature.

Transfer of cases of Mizoram to Aizwal Bench of Guwahati High Court

*220. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Aizwal Bench of Guwahati High Court has been constituted with a view to avoiding hardship to the litigants of Mizoram ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that all the matters relating to the State of Mizoram are to be transferred to this bench ; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that the cases of the State of Mizoram are not kept with Guwahati Bench but are prompmptly transferred to Aizawal Bench?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to section 2 of the Gawahati High Court (Establishment of a Permanent Bench at Aizawal) Order, 1990, while came into force on 5th July, 1990 the Bench at Aizawal would exercise the jurisdiction and powers for the time being vested in the Gawahati High Court in respect of cases arising in the State of Mizoram, provided that the Chief Justice of the High Court may, in discretion order that any case or class of cases arising in the State of Mizoram shall be heard at Guwahati.

(c) In view of the above, the decision in this regard lies with the Chief Justice of the Guwahati High Court.

Availability of Life Saving Medical Equipments

@1808. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new import policy requiring importers to obtain eligibility certificate for having adequate service arrangement from the designated authorities has resulted in an acute shortage of life saving medical equipments in the country ; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to get the life saving medical eqipm nts without any difficulty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISCRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN) (a) and (b) With a view to ensure that the costly imported medical equipment do not remain out of order for want of after-sales repairing facility, the Import & Export Policy, 1990-1993 provided that the

@Previously Unstarred Question 875 transferred from 13-8-90.

OGL facility for import of life saving equipment would be available only to those having necessary after-sales arrangements as certified by DGTD. Chief Medical Officer or Civil Surgeon of a District and the Chief Medical Superintendent of the hospital attached to a recognised Medical College or any other agency designated for the purpose by the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports. In order to ensure that there is no disruption in the availability of imported medical equipment, the requirement of securing eligibility certificates from the designated agency has been dispensed with in the case of import of a single item equipment costing less than Rs. 1 lakh (*cif*).

Foreign Investment in India

@@1809. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering measures for the opening up of the Indian economy to foreign investors to the extent of 40 to 50 per cent of foriegn ownership; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the steps being taken to implement the scheme and whether it would be more advantageous over commercial borrowings pnd will also provide access to the latest technology?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) and (b) The foreign investment policy of the Government is guided by our national interest. Such investment will continue to be allowed within the framework of national priorities, especially for purposes of modernization, meeting critical gaps in technology and production and for boosting exports. Procedures are also being streamlined so that decision making is speedier and delays are avoided.

World Bank assistance for Irrigation Projects in Orissa

1810. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Bank has any proposal for sponsoring few more projects for financial assistance under Orissa Irrigation-III:

(b) if so, what are the details of of the projects and finpncial involvement therein;

(c) whether Orissa Government had sent those projects for clearance by the Central Water Commission ; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken so far in this regard by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A proposal for World Bank assistance for a Composite Orissa Irrigation-III Project covering 7 major and 10 medium irrigation projects was received from the Government of Orissa. It was examined by the Central Appraising Agency and comm nts sent to the State Government during 1989-90. Replies from the State Government have not been received.

@@—Previously Unstarred Question 905 transferred from 13-8-90.